

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**RS23732**

This bill amends Title 58 by creating a new Chapter 10 which creates an Office of Public Lands within the Department of Lands. This bill also creates a nine-member council appointed by the Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, which will designate an administrator of the Office of Public Lands who serves at the pleasure of the council. The duties of the Office of Public Lands will be to coordinate with other agencies and departments of state government on issues relative to public lands, coordinate and implement responses to federal action regarding public lands, negotiate with the federal government, cooperate regionally on public lands issues, listen to grievances of Idaho citizens relative to public lands policy in Idaho and provide an ombudsman for the people of the state of Idaho. The Office of Public Lands will provide annual reports to the Legislature.

FISCAL NOTE

It is anticipated this bill will have a fiscal impact of about \$250,000.

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